

# CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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The CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE invites and welcomes news items concerning constructive work done for welfare of childhood in home, church, school and state.

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE will be sent free for one year to NEW Circles of fifty or more members paying dues of not less than five dollars, (\$5.00).

Receipt for dues must be sent by State Treasurer to National Treasurer who will forward to the magazine names of Associations entitled to free copies.

This offer is made to aid new circles with their programs and to give them the opportunity to know of the nation-wide work for better homes, better mothers, better children.

If names of Officers are sent to CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE sample copies for distribution and subscriptions will be sent. All members will be more interested in the work by having CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

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## Parent-Teacher Associations

### ACTIVITIES OF A SUCCESSFUL ONE

Laura Underhill Kohn

What is the right kind of education? What should our schools teach? Is the old-time discipline of body and mind, to give way to free activity and the much talked of "project-method"?

These loud-voiced questions of the day must be heard in the homes. Those parents who have hibernated in their quarters of indifference and irresponsibility must, like the proverbial groundhog, come out of their holes, see the shadow which their indifference is casting upon the lives of their children and seeing the shadow they must stay out, for the winter of parent-neglect is surely passing and the springtime of home-interest in the schools is approaching. The Parent-Teacher Associations are the harbingers of this spring. It is through them that the awakened homes are to become co-workers with the schools.

The new education will be the result of "team-work."

School principals who can call upon their patrons through their Parent-Teacher Association to help with the lunch problem, with excursions, with exhibits, to obtain school equipment or to relieve teachers of detail work are decidedly in favor of these organizations. In many instances they call their parents for conferences on important matters relating to school policy.

If Parent-Teacher Associations are capable of doing this "educational team-work" with the schools why are there many schools without such organizations? A recent canvass of Parent-Teacher Associations in one hundred cities of the Middle West revealed the fact that seventy-two per cent of the teaching force was enthusiastic about the work of these associations while the

remaining twenty-eight per cent. considered them valueless.

Are the homes always responsible for this lack, or are the schools sometimes opposed to this coöperation?

Here are two instances which have come to my notice during the last year. No. 1 is an excellent school in New England. The principal is a very progressive woman with a corps of teachers of unusual ability. This school has a Parent-Teacher Association running into large numbers. The principal calls the meetings and although conferring with her self-appointed committee of mothers, she really plans the programs and she, alone, forms the active administrative body of the organization.

At the meetings the teachers are responsible for the refreshments, even this part which would naturally fall to the homes, is taken away from the mothers. With no tangible things for the mothers to do the association lives simply because the mothers are interested in the education of their children. It is an association which is helping the homes by letting the mothers become *inactively* acquainted with the fine work being done by the school.

No. 2 is a Public School in one of our large cities. The principal and his assistants are heart and soul in their work and are anxious for parent coöperation. Meetings have been called by the principal and many parents have attended them. Enthusiastic ones have said, "This is fine! Do it again." Who is to do it again? Who is to shoulder the work of organizing a Parent-Teacher Association and of keeping it alive? Why in this case *the school*. But can an overworked faculty be expected to do this extra work?

It is clear that something is wrong with these associations. In the first case the parents are ready and willing to do their part but the principal will permit no "team-work." She is afraid of "home-interference" with her school. In the second case the opportunity for "team-work" is offered to the home, but the indifferent parents will not "put their hands to the plough." Perhaps the principal who fears home-interference represents a large percentage of those opposing principals of the Middle West and we will admit that such a danger exists. It is not wholly imaginary, but associations can be so organized that no such danger need be feared.

In a large school in one of our cities the active members of the Parent-Teacher Association realized that this danger was one of the things which prevented the growth of the organization. Some years ago, they in conference with interested members of the faculty, drew up a petition which was sent to the Board of Governors of the School asking that the association be made a part of the school. The constitution was changed to meet the new demands and so planned that the administrative power of the

association was in the hands of committees made up, whenever possible, of an equal number of representatives from the home and from the school. One member of the executive committee of the school is a member of the executive committee of the Association and two parents are members of the school council. A secretarial board, responsible to the governing body of the school, constitutes the active administrative body of the Association. This board is made up of six parents and six teachers.

At first all parents were considered members of the association. Lack of interest, due in part to the feeling that what is given is not as valuable as what one seeks for, made another change in the constitution necessary, namely the payment of dues to secure membership. At this writing sixty per cent. of the parents are members and each new activity brings in a few mothers. It is not a rapid way of making an association grow but it is a sure way of perpetuating its growth.

As soon as the school realized the value of home-coöperation a room in the school building was given to the association. This room under the management of an able room committee, guided by the principal of a school of interior decorating, became an artistic Association Home. Comfortable chairs are grouped about tables with books and magazines, there is a cozy tea-table corner for social chats and a well-equipped desk. On every school day it is indeed a busy place. Some members of the secretarial board are always there; there also committees meet for discussion, group chairmen meet their assistants or individual mothers "drop in" for information or a library book. From this educational center the association reaches out to the homes, keeps in touch with the school, connects the home with the school and both with the community.

Space will not permit details of the work. Briefly; for the home the circulating library with its instructive books and magazines acquaints the mothers with the educational activities of the day. The library committee reviews these books and also worth-while periodicals. These reviews are pasted in the books, making them more interesting to the readers. Classes for mothers are held each year. Expert teachers have given courses on civics, domestic science (with actual kitchen work), community work for women, why we tell stories to children, modern theories of education, books we should read with our children and ethics in the home and school. The course on ethics has been given each year for three years; the fact that one hundred and eighty mothers registered this year for the course entitled "Old and New Problems in Character Building" testifies to the need for such work. In all these classes opportunity is given for free discussion of individual problems. This work tends to interest the individual mother in

the work of the school and to make her realize the necessity for that interest.

The Association brings the mothers into the school as co-workers through committee work as follows: the Better New York Committee coöperates with the school in planning and carrying out excursions for the elementary department in connection with class room work. The vocational guidance committee secures speakers representing the different trades and professions to address the high school assembly. The lunch room committee keeps four mothers on duty daily helping the regular lunch room force by selling and collecting tickets and helping to serve the lunches. This means that twenty mothers are working each week, each mother giving two hours of her time daily. The festival committee coöperate with the school in the purchasing of materials and the making of the costumes used by the children. Mothers relieve the school librarian during her lunch hour. Outdoor recreation for the children during the winter months is also a part of the Association work. At a call from the school emergency committees are quickly formed to meet the needs. While this work is primarily for the benefit of the school it is of great benefit to the mothers working on the various committees, broadening their vision and opening new fields for action.

To unite the parents and the teachers for "team-work" in the education of the children evening meetings and afternoon group meetings are held. At the evening meetings, held three or four times during the year, the entire Association is given the opportunity of hearing expert lectures on subjects of general interest. These meetings bring out many fathers. The group meetings (mothers and teachers of one class) are held in the Association Room or at the home of some member of the class. At these meetings there is general discussion of class room work with the teacher or papers are read which have been written by mothers and teachers on some chosen subject. After free discussion on the subject for the afternoon the time is given up to getting really acquainted. Another means of uniting parents and teachers in a work of equal value to each is through exhibits. These are either school-exhibits planned by the teachers, the details carried out by the parents, or exhibits of more general interest planned by the parents. The large exhibits are held in the Assembly Hall, being well advertised and interesting to the teachers, parents and children of the school and to the community at large. The following exhibits have been held; A Child's Room, His Books, Games and His Pictures; Household Efficiency; Birds—Their Life and Their Relation to Man; Precious and Semi-Precious Stones—Their History and Value. For these exhibits experts are always consulted and the opportunities for community coöperation are many.

Grade Exhibits showing the work of each child are held in the Association Room. These are very successful as they bring the individual mother to the room through interest in the work of her child. This often leads to an interest in the school as a whole and in the work of the association.

The community Work connects the school and the Association with the great outside world, giving teachers, parents and children a chance to help their less fortunate neighbors and in so doing to make their own lives worthier. A house-to-house canvass of the adjacent neighborhood found a large percentage of the parents ready to grasp opportunities for the betterment of their condition and eager to give their children advantages which they themselves had been denied. As a result, the Association, with the help of the school, has organized the following activities; an afternoon free kindergarten conducted in one of the rooms of the school building under the supervision of normal students and the head of the normal department; recreation groups of white and colored boys meeting weekly in the school gymnasium under an expert leader assisted by high school students; groups and individuals in music instruction supervised by the head of the school music department assisted by trained teachers; manual training group of colored boys working in the shop twice a week under the leadership of an instructor of the school assisted by high-school students; sewing groups of girls meeting weekly under the guidance of one of the domestic art teachers, assisted by high-school girls. Some members of the community committee too are responsible for each group and are in constant touch with it. The school doctor and the school nurse give individual examinations and constant supervision to each child attending these groups and the Parent-Teacher Association finances the work.

No organization can keep alive unless it is in close touch with other educational organizations throughout the country. The Parent-Teacher Association of this school reaches out in many directions. The Association magazine, *School and Home*, acquaints the home with the activities of the school through contributions by members of the school faculty, it lets the school know the results of its instruction through articles written by the parents and each number of the magazine contains a contribution from some noted educator. *School and Home* is sent free to all the patrons of the school as well as to the members of the faculty. It reaches many parts of the United States through exchanges and subscriptions. Through its Press Chairman the Association acquaints the reading public with its aims and activities and opens its doors to all lectures and classes. From time to time the Association publishes in pamphlet form addresses and descriptions of exhibits which have a special educational value. The following pamphlets

have been published; "The Child's Room" and "The Ethical Standards of the Architect." The Association is also a member of the National and State Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations and through delegates sent to the state conventions it reaps the benefit of the larger coöperation with hundreds of organizations working for the welfare of the child.

To sum up—this association does tangible things for the home, for the school and for the community, it keeps them in close touch with each other and with the educational work of the country so that it justifies its existence, but how is its existence to be perpetuated? Does not this organization like many others depend upon a score of active workers and what is to become of the association when they fall by the wayside?

This perpetuity is slowly but surely being secured through the personal touch of the "Get-together-Committee." Each class throughout the school has its chairman who has four assistants, each assistant being personally responsible for a given number of mothers. Word of each new activity is sent to these chairmen by the secretaries and through them by their assistants to each individual mother either by personal note or interview. These chairmen take a personal pride in calling their assistants to the Association Room for conferences and in getting them with their "mother-groups" thoroughly conversant with every detail of the work. The secretaries meet and become so well acquainted with the individual mothers that "committee-misfits" are rare. As the school classes are promoted each year so the "Group mothers" will move on and as chairmen

step out to fill some office or to work on some committee their places will be filled by the assistants or some mother from the groups. It will be as progressive as the work of the school and the many important committees offer places for promotion.

This is the ideal for which this association is striving. Quick results cannot be expected. As the mothers become more and more interested the association will grow. The active workers realize that they must have the faith and patience of the principal of a Massachusetts rural school who reported her association as follows: "There years ago each pupil in my school was represented by one fourth of a parent, two years ago the representation had increased to four fifths of a parent, while this year each pupil is represented by *one whole* parent and one seventh of the other one." When *every mother*, not only the mother busy with household cares but the mother overwhelmed with social duties, realizes that it is her most urgent duty to know what the school is trying to do for her child, and knowing this will take her part in this "educational team-work," then every child in every school will be represented in that school's Parent-Teacher Association by a *whole mother*. With thoroughly interested mothers there is hope that in time fathers will feel, that in addition to business cares and politics, they, too, can take on the burden of interest in their child's education. When this time comes our schools with their Parent-Teacher Associations in which each child is represented by a *whole mother* and a *whole father* will be better able to give our children the right kind of education.

### Announcement from the Savings Division of the Treasury Department to National Women's Organizations

After January 1, 1921, the Savings Division of the Treasury Department will centralize in its offices at Washington the work of women's organizations in connection with the Treasury Savings Movement, and will make contact through the channels of national women's organizations direct instead of through the District Savings Organizations of the twelve Federal Reserve Districts as has been the plan during 1919 and 1920. It is not the intention of the new policy to in any way curtail the activities among women. The intention is to accentuate this work. It is the belief of the Savings Division that if this Movement in the interest of popular saving is to be fully effective in women's organizations the major responsibility of planning and directing it should be assumed by them and that the promotion of the Movement should become a part of their regular policy.

Under the new policy all contacts made by

the Savings Division with local clubs will be made through national thrift chairmen, except that materials for local clubs will be distributed by the Savings Division direct from Washington. Much of the correspondence which in the past has been done by those in charge of women's activities in the various Savings Organizations of the twelve Federal Reserve Districts will in the future be assumed we trust by the national and state Thrift Chairmen of the women's organizations, the national chairmen making their contacts with state chairmen, and the state chairmen in turn with local chairmen. The Savings Division is confident that under this new plan a much more effective piece of work can be done, that more opportunity may be given for initiative and thought on the part of women themselves, and that the whole matter will result in a clearer understanding and a closer working relationship.—Continued on page 168.



## Hot Lunch for the Rural School

### WHAT IS THE HOT LUNCH?

One hot dish served at noon to supplement the cold lunch brought from home.

### WHY THE HOT LUNCH?

1. Better school work is accomplished by the children.
  2. Better health is shown by the pupils.
  3. Better digestion is incited by the hot food.
  4. Better table manners are encouraged.
  5. Better selection of food is taught.
  6. To help diminish the 4 million cases of malnutrition in U. S.
  7. To help diminish the cases of tuberculosis in Wisconsin.
- 1,393 out of the 6,601 rural schools in Wisconsin serve a hot noon lunch. That is only 21 per cent. of the schools. Wood County heads the list with 84 out of her 90 schools or 93 per cent. supplying a hot dish at noon.

### HOW TO PROVIDE HOT LUNCH

1. School board finances it.
2. Some interested patrons donate it.
3. Women's clubs donate it.
4. Some simple entertainment of box supper earns it.
5. School board supplies equipment and other agencies supply the food material.
6. Individual families each share a part. (A mother's meeting might arrange for the division of the supplies.)

Whenever possible the first and second methods prove the most satisfactory as any embarrassment is avoided on the part of the providers and teacher.

### WHAT EQUIPMENT?

In the beginning it is advisable to serve only a cup of hot milk, hot cocoa or soup. Thus the

equipment needed is very simple and inexpensive. Later more equipment may be added.

1. A two or three burner oil stove. (This can also be useful in community affairs.)

2. A small table or equivalent (dry goods box). The lower part may be enclosed as a cupboard for the dishes and cutlery. A door in front will keep out the dust, mice, etc. Lard tins or cracker boxes may serve as containers for materials attractive to mice.

#### 3. Dishes for working:

large teakettle  
large double boiler  
large granite kettle  
quart measure  
sieve  
egg beater  
measuring cup  
large long handled spoon  
measuring spoon  
tablespoon  
2 paring knives  
potato masher  
vegetable brush  
can opener  
fork

#### 4. Dishes for serving.

A large pitcher for serving soup or cocoa. The individual equipment may be brought by each child from home and kept at school or supplied as part of the equipment.

large cup, plate, spoon, paper napkins.

#### 5. Cleaning equipment:

dishpans, dish towels, dish cloths, soap, cleanser, sapolio.—Prepared for Co-operative Extension Work in Home Economics. —Miss Gladys Stillman. *From the Educational News Bulletin, Wisconsin.*

## A Tiny Egoist

### WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

By LYNN DAVIS HICKS

What would you have done with this mother's problem?

Little Tilly was a beautiful child, and had always been so "sweet and dear," her mother said, till the little brother came. Then Tilly began to show a side that worried her mother. She didn't seem to love her little brother. Not only did she never "love him and pet him" but she didn't want anyone else to do it. When someone was jumping brother or playing with

him, Tilly would do everything she could to attract the older person's attention to herself, trying to put herself where the baby was, pulling the person's hands so they would pat or smoothe her instead of the baby.

"It's so unnatural," the mother worried, "for her not to love him. I can't understand it!"

Tilly's beauty was the fairy kind—lovely curly hair of fluffy spun gold, violet eyes, exqui-

site skin, and she herself as graceful and light and airy as a butterfly. And (with great emphasis)—she was the only, rather, the first one of her generation in a large family. The first grandchild on both her mother's and father's side, the first niece! Had she been the dull gray elephant type rather than the sunshine fairy one she would have been showered with things just because of her "position" in the families. As it was, she had been not only showered for this reason, she'd been showered because she was beautiful; she'd been the center of things in all family gatherings; she'd been petted and laughed at, caressed and quoted right where she could hear—all this until she was five years old, which was plenty old enough for her to have evolved not only a strong love of adulation and the habit of expecting much, but some pretty definite ideas on the subject.

It was these ideas that were in force when she tried to draw to herself the attention that was going to her little brother. It is such ideas that will make her less and less lovable the older she grows. At five, her egoism was not disagreeable; some of the young aunts thought it the cutest thing they'd ever seen, and would catch her to them and make the usual fuss over her, all very gratifying to little Tilly. There are certain ages when such selfishness can be attractive, especially if the person has some charm of looks or manner, and one of these ages is five—and under. But Tilly couldn't stay five, and as she grew to be seven and eight, too large to be made a toy of as she had been, especially as little Rich was satisfying the toy-love in the aunts and uncles, she was slighted more and more. Now, when she tried to attract the attention she craved, she was not snatched up and made a fuss over, but pushed away and told not to be so bothersome or so smarty or not to try to be funny—for she tried every way she knew to make herself the center of things as she had been "in the good old days." Tilly was at the age when being attractive is usually a matter of speaking when you are spoken to, or of "being seen and not heard" and sometimes not even seen, or of being accommodating and helpful. But these were unknown qualities to Tilly, not through any fault of her own, but because she'd not been made acquainted with them at a time when all social attitudes were strange to her and she could have learned one as easily as another. Her attitude toward little Rich became more and more distressing to her mother. She not only showed no affection for him, but she would be mean to him, sometimes even trying to hurt him. Then, she would tattle on him, not always to her mother and father, but to the petting relations as well, and, as Rich could not very well explain matters or correct her statements, she sometimes made him out quite different from what he was.

As she was far from stupid, she soon saw that

none of these things brought her what she wanted so she assumed a grown-up rôle and would try to monopolize the conversation, joining in on every subject and trying to be very witty! From one point of view it was really amusing, but not for long. She was soon known as the little bore and the little pest and so on. She called Rich "that bad little kid" and ordered him away whenever he came where she was entertaining!

We've all known Tillies—perhaps we've even had a hand in their making! We've known them at the ages of five, of nine, of eighteen and on into the years—and of both sexes. We've perhaps suffered from the perversions of the truth which they frequently use to satisfy their egoism.

The longer a person is allowed to nurse his ego as Tilly did, the harder it is to make him forget it. And the method is apt to be as painful and as bitter as its reverse was pleasant to the tiny Tilly. Hearing unpleasant truths about ourselves is never the most fun in the world, and to a person trained to egoism as Tilly was, it is decidedly the least fun. But there is no other cure for such children. This truth-telling should not be done by people who do not love the child or by thoughtless ones, for hurting feelings, even a child's, never does any good. It is best done by someone whom the child really loves and in whom she has absolute confidence—someone who has helped spoil her, it is apt to be. A quiet heart-to-heart talk along the lines of this one which recently had such splendid results with a child such as Tilly had become!

"Mother," the child burst out, "I just hate Aunt Lola! I was on the porch just now talking to Mrs. White and Aunt Lola told me to 'go on away,'" mimicking a rude tone, "that nobody wanted to hear what I had to say or wanted me always around! I just hate her!"

The mother thought for a moment; then.

"Well, dear, it was certainly rude of Aunt Lola to speak to you that way and I know she'll be sorry," establishing understanding and sympathy at once, and I think I'll explain to you what she meant. Close the door, and come over here."

Having the child close the door was another point scored! Her faults were to be bared only to someone who knew them anyhow and who loved her. There was to be no risk of anyone else hearing.

"Why do you suppose, dear, that Aunt Lola spoke to you that way?"

"I don't know! She just doesn't want Mrs. White to like me!"

"No, dear! It's just the other reason. She does want Mrs. White to like you. But Aunt Lola knows just what we all know—that nobody likes a child who is always around among grown people interrupting them when they are talking

or making them listen to her when they want to be talking about something else."

"But why can't I talk just as well as Aunt Lola?"

"You certainly can, but—whom did Mrs. White come to see?"

"Aunt Lola," in a very quiet tone.

"Yes, she did, and maybe she wanted to tell Aunt Lola something or maybe she wanted to ask her something. And even if it wasn't a secret, she couldn't tell her while you were talking, could she? I knew she didn't come to see me, so I didn't go out on the porch, did I? And Aunt Lola knew that if you stayed around and kept them from talking, that Mrs. White would not like you and would go away and say to people that you were such a horrid child, always 'sticking around where you weren't wanted' like I heard you say about some children that are smaller than you when your little friends came to see you the other day."

The child was beginning to see. She was hearing plain facts, but she was not hearing them in a way that would make her mad or

rebellious or throw her in on herself by hurting her feelings. The telling point was that by trying to absorb all the attention she was defeating her own end—that of making people like her and want her around! She caught it, and while staying away from people or being part of the background and trying to be forgotten seemed a very strange way to make people like you and be nice to you, she decided to try it for a little while! She was not quite as pleased with the result as were Aunt Lola and others, but before long she found that the older people were noticing her, did sometimes invite her to go where she'd always disagreeably pushed herself before. She found that it paid!

Forgetting one's self is the key that opens the doors to many of the best things of life. It doesn't seem fair that Tilly was denied all these things, or forced to earn them by bitter lessons of being humbled and crushed and repulsed, but such is the payment that life demands of the poor little children whose thoughtless relatives and friends make of them such absolute egoists as Tilly.

## Parent's Comfort or Child's Welfare

BY GEORGE W. TUTTLE

Which looms the larger, which is the mountain and which is the molehill, our selfish comfort or the child's welfare? Parent love of ease and parent indolence mean children poorly equipped for life.

What more abused words in parent language than those two simple words; "No" and "Yes"? The child's welfare, both for time and for eternity, often trembles in the balance as we use them. To say "No," or to say "Yes," simply as a quietus, simply to be rid of the importunity of a child is abhorrent and inexcusable. Suppose that our Heavenly Father answered us in like fashion, instead of weighing our welfare carefully in the heavenly scales!

Must not our compliance with, or refusal of, the child's requests, be weighty with thought and luminous with love? Careless decisions are wet blankets to correct child growth and development. A parent may even—the good Lord forbid—say "Yes" because it is easy. A murrain on this easy business!

To say "Yes" to a child's perfectly normal and reasonable request may upset our plans; which is the better, which is the more reasonable, to change our plans or to change the set of a child's sails on the sea of life when the child seems to be already on the right tack, sailing smoothly on?

To cross a child unnecessarily is on a par with going out some dark night and stretching barbed wire across the much used street. Pedestrians

would be injured: an officer would appear; the judge would say: "Malicious mischief! Thirty days." A parent's case is not so quickly disposed of, it awaits the decision of the Great Judge. Thought-indolence is the parent curse of to-day. Let us think, think with all our God-given brains. Let; "What is best for the child? what is best for the child?" ring over and over again in our hearts like sweet-toned bells of Heaven.

Our comfort, ease, is a matter of the hour or even of the moment, but the welfare of a child is a matter of both time and eternity. Why not get out all the joy and blessing that God would have us get from our contact with the living, loving bits of humanity that the Father has given us for our own? Shall we handle a fragile bit of china more carefully and tenderly than we handle a child? Our comfort, ease, is a drop in the bucket of life; the child's welfare is the pure water for coming generations to drink.

Somehow, I think that the angels shudder more at selfishness in a father or mother than they do at more seemingly outrageous sins in those who have never felt tender arms about their necks. Let those who have not been strangers to the soft embraces of children, those who have had baby kisses fall on their faces like sweet incense from Heaven, remember these words of our Master: "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required."

### State Universities Supplying Films

The chairman of the Department of Better Films reports the following State universities as supplying films. Write them for lists. Practically all state universities limit their activities to their own state at cost of transportation or normal charge.

Buffalo Society of Natural Science, Hayes School, Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Indiana University, Extension Division, Bloomington, Ind.

Kansas State Normal, Visual Extension Division (Transportation).

Massachusetts Board of Education, Dept. of Univ. Extension, State House, Boston. \$1 per reel to cover cost of maintenance and repair.

North Dakota Agricultural College, Extension Division, N. Dak., 50 cents per reel to cover expense.

State College of Washington, Extension Division, Pullman, Wash. Free.

University of Arizona, General Extension Division, Tucson, Ariz. No rental charge.

University of Arkansas, General Extension Division, Fayetteville, Ark.

University of California, Extension Division, Dept. of Visual Instruction, Berkeley, Cal. Some 50 cents per reel, some free.

University of Colorado, Extension Division, Dept. of Instruction, Boulder, Colo. No rental charge.

University of Florida, General Extension Division, Gainesville, Fla. No rental charge.

University of Kansas, Extension Division, Lawrence, Kan. No rental charge.

Univ. of Ky., Visual Extension Dept., Lexington, Ky. Free.

Univ. of Minn., General Extension Division, Bureau of Visual Instruction, Minneapolis, Minn. Small fee.

Miss. Agricultural National College, Agricultural College, Miss. No rental charge.

Univ. of Mo., Extension Division, Columbia, Mo. No rental.

Univ. of N. D., Extension Division, Grand Forks, N. D. No charge.

Univ. of Okla., Dept. Visual Education, Norman, Okla. No charge.

Univ. of Oregon, Extension Division, Eugene, Ore. No charge.

Univ. of Pittsburgh, Extension Division, Pittsburgh, Pa. No rental charge.

Univ. of S. C., Bureau of Visual Instruction, Extension Dept., Columbia, S. C.

Univ. of S. D., Extension Division, Vermillion, S. Dak. No charge.

Univ. of Texas, Dept. of Extension, Visual Division, Austin, Texas. No rental charge. \$1 per yr. registration fee is required.

Univ. of Va., Bureau of Extension, University, Va.

Univ. of Wis., Extension Division, Madison, Wis. Supplies some films outside of state.

United States Dept. of Agriculture supplies films.

Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington, D. C. has some industrial subjects which may be obtained for use when no admittance fee is charged.

### New York City Schools Advise Children about Good Films

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Of the City of New York Office of The Director of Lectures 157 East 67th Street

MRS. ADELE F. WOODWARD,  
381 Fourth Avenue,  
New York City.

*My dear Mrs. Woodard:* It gives me great pleasure to be able to report to you that our New York City schools are now all receiving the weekly bulletin service of the National Motion Picture League, paid for by the Board of Education.

My suggestion has been that the lists be published in the various school periodicals, in addition to posting the Bulletins.

However it is accomplished, I am sure that there is nothing more important than getting the recommendation of the wholesome films described in your list before our school children as some slight palliative antidote to the noxious

offerings of all too many of our public motion picture houses.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) ERNEST L. CRANDALL,

*Director of Lectures and Visual Instruction*

School Principals are responding by printing the lists of endorsed films in the School Papers, so that practically every school child in New York City now has the advantage of this advance information on wholesome films.

#### How One School Principal Creates Demand for Wholesome Pictures

##### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of the Principal of Public School No. 117,  
Borough of Brooklyn

November 16, 1920

MR. ERNEST L. CRANDALL,

*Director of Lectures and Visual Instruction*

*My dear Mr. Crandall:* If you can supply me



with from six to eight copies of every issue of the Current Motion Picture Bulletin, I shall have teachers or parents take them to the local moving picture theaters, and request the proprietors to present the films so listed.

I would suggest that the League provide us with posters. I shall do everything possible to create a demand for wholesome pictures.

In case proprietors of these theaters do not endeavor to coöperate, would it not be possible to run a series of pictures in different local centers? By presenting the ordinary vulgar film as well as the approved reels, the parents could be led to realize the necessity of discrimination and guidance in the amusement of their children. Among my little boys I have had in the past, though not recently, many cases of the Charlie Chaplin shrug which had become a matter of habit. My children are young (kindergarten 4-B) and of Sicilian parentage. I have no facilities for showing pictures, but I shall be glad to work at any time for a fund to equip some school in the neighborhood with a moving picture machine.

With best wishes for your continued success in the Bureau of Lectures, I am,

Very truly yours,

JULIA BYRNE,  
Principal

### Churches Promote Better Films

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Five South Wabash Ave., Chicago

October 6, 1920

(Sent to all state and provincial superintendents.)

More and more I am convinced that we Sunday School Association people must do all in our power to lend large influence in the matter of securing the right kind of motion picture films in the motion picture theaters.

I feel that one way in which we can help is to keep in touch with the National Motion Picture League, and to urge Sunday School people interested in the religious education of children to do the same. You will find enclosed copies of two leaflets—one is entitled "The National Motion Picture League." It gives information in regard to the League—its aims and methods of work. I would suggest that you ask all your County Children's Division Superintendents to arrange for distribution of this leaflet at County Sunday School conventions and at District conventions. You and they can secure all the samples of this leaflet you need by writing to the National Motion Picture League, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

The other leaflet enclosed is a sample copy of the current motion picture bulletin issued by the National Motion Picture League. You can tell your County Children's Division Superintendents that anyone of them can secure a

sample copy of such bulletin by writing to the National Motion Picture League. Quantities of samples of this bulletin are not sent out free of charge. It is issued to the members of the National Motion Picture League. Anyone may become a member, as you know, by the payment of \$2.00 or more per year. The County Children's Division Superintendents should tell the Children's Division Workers attending their County convention about this League and urge all the workers present to do what they can in their local communities to persuade the motion picture men to use the films suggested in the bulletin issued by the League.

Hoping that you can and will do something to aid in the great undertaking, I am,

Sincerely yours,

CHILDREN'S DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT.

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
IN AMERICA COMMISSION ON THE CHURCH  
AND SOCIAL SERVICE

December 1, 1920

MR. ROBERT SCOTT,  
New York City.

*My dear Mr. Scott:* This Commission is receiving frequent complaints about the character of the films exhibited in motion picture houses throughout the country. I know of no more effective way of meeting this situation than by calling public attention to the best productions, thus stimulating a demand for them.

The National Motion Picture League will furnish its weekly bulletins to the religious press without cost. To publish these lists, or portions of them, cannot fail to give an impetus to the movement for better motion pictures.

The League is a wholly non-commercial organization, composed of public-spirited people whose service is voluntary. They believe that the best way to eliminate the bad is to advertise the good. I enclose a descriptive leaflet and a copy of the current list.

Very sincerely,

F. E. JOHNSON

### The National Motion Picture League Standards for Reviewing Pictures

*Films must be*

Clever and wholesome—

Inasmuch as the chief purpose of the League is to safeguard the general public from inane and immoral films, the Reviewing Board selects only those films which are clever and which have a wholesome effect.

Moral throughout—

Inasmuch as a film may have a moral ending, and yet be unwholesome in detail, no details are accepted which are not wholesome.

Positive—

The Reviewing Board recognizes the generally accepted principle that negative teaching has a

tendency to produce an unwholesome effect, therefore only pictures which are positive in the treatment of theme, are selected.

**Without crime—**

Inasmuch as the constant portrayal of crime educates in crime, fills the mind with criminal thoughts, and tends to promote crime through imitation, the Reviewing Board accepts no portrayal of crime in a picture unless it is very faintly suggested and plays a very subordinate part in the theme.

Titles grammatical and free from profanity and vulgar slang—

Because of this same quality of Imitation, and the peculiar power of the screen to influence the actions of the immature, all objectionable elements such as profanity, vulgar slang, grammatical errors (except in conversation), vulgar grimaces, etc., are eliminated.

Without brutality of any kind—

Cruelty to man or beast is not accepted. Scenes of actual killing and all gun-play and senseless use of weapons are eliminated; fighting is usually condemned; all suggestions of suicide are eliminated.

In good taste—

Inasmuch as the lowering of taste tends to immorality, scenes of vulgarity and immodesty are eliminated.

Clever—

The Reviewing Board rejects insane, namby-pamby pictures as they are apt to cause a hatred of the good which in itself is unwholesome.

Presentations of decent living—

Such scenes as women and children smoking and women, men and children drinking are rejected inasmuch as a large percentage of our American audiences consider this a matter of morals, infidelity and sex pictures are not accepted.

Accurate—

The Board refuses to endorse a film that is inaccurate from a scientific standpoint; undesirable inaccuracies in the production of well-known stories will also be rejected.

*Reviewers are expected to be:*

Unbiased—

Reviewers are cautioned against reading any prepublicity or scenarios previous to viewing a picture. It is desired that reviewers contemplate the picture with the same open mind as would the audience. Any explanations from the producers are considered a handicap.

Conservative and fearless—

Inasmuch as the Board is not a Censoring Board, but is a Recommending Board, it is possible for the greatest freedom to be felt in following the principles of psychology and pedagogy. It is not necessary to take a middle course. It is the aim of the board to be conservative. Inasmuch as pictures rejected are not condemned publicly, the good-will of the producer is not an element to be considered. The board gives free publicity of an extraordinary nature to pictures endorsed. This is sufficient to ensure the interest and coöperation of any far-seeing producer. Rejection of a picture has only the result that it does not receive the publicity given by the League. In case of doubt, the audience is given the benefit of the doubt.

The Board can select films for specific audiences and for propaganda work.

The Board is pleased to receive protests about pictures and posters. Although the League does not condemn these publicly, it can refer these protests to the producers of such pictures and posters in order to acquaint the producers with public sentiment concerning them.

## National Board Considers Welfare of Children

MRS. W. H. SAWYER

The main work taken up at the meeting of the National Board of Managers held in Indianapolis was arranging program for the annual Child-Welfare Conference to be held in Washington, April 25-26, 1921. Mrs. Higgins, president, made several stops en route, stopping at Cleveland, where a reception was given by Mrs. Smith, president Cleveland Congress of Mothers.

At Columbus Mrs. Higgins attended a State Board meeting and consulted the State University School of Education and State Department of Education concerning extension work.

A tea was given by the 40 presidents of the city Parent-Teacher Associations which was attended by over 300 people.

Columbus voted \$1,000 to start a fund for a paid state organizer, to be used principally in dealing with the serious rural conditions in

the hill country and in the rural parts of Ohio.

A conference was held with welfare representatives of a large lumber company to plan for Parent-Teacher Associations to help, in educational and recreational work in country lumber camp villages in Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and North Carolina.

Mrs. Higgins' last stop before Indianapolis was in Chicago for a State Board meeting. She plans to visit some of the Southern states during March.

Mrs. Watkins, representing National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in Women's Joint Congressional Committee brought the last word for progressive legislature for education and welfare of children.

The Senate has passed the Maternity and Infancy bill and it is now before the House.

## Child-Welfare Notes

## GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT OF LAST CENTURY

The greatest achievement of the last century—one unparalleled anywhere else in all the world—is the retention in school of 4 children in 10 to the age 15 and 2 in 10 to the age of 18 years. Comparing the secondary schools of foreign countries with the four-year period accepted as the standard in this country, the United States actually had, before the war, more children enrolled in secondary schools than all the rest of the civilized world combined. Both the number of high schools and the number of children in high schools are increasing rapidly every year, and seem likely to continue for years to come at a rate faster than the increase in the general population.

## UNITED STATES NOT A PAUPER COMMUNITY

"The United States is not a pauper community," said P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, in his address. "Keep that in your mind when you are discussing more money for the salaries of educators. Remember that the United States has two fifths of the gold of the world, that the income of its people is from \$60,000,000,000 to \$75,000,000,000 yearly, and that nearly \$6,000,000,000 was paid into the Federal Treasury last year.

"There are 27,000,000 school children in the United States, who in a few years will have in their control all the business of state and nation, all the institutions of the country, the control of the nation. The United States can afford to have them properly educated for this responsibility."

## \$94,791 IN RETURNS EARNED BY BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS

Supervision of boys' and girls' poultry clubs by the United States Department of Agriculture, in coöperation with State agricultural colleges, was continued during the last fiscal year in seven States, where there were 1,186 clubs with 29,480 members, of whom 12,786 made reports from which the following totals have been compiled: Eggs set, 731,709; chicks hatched, 510,478; value of products sold, \$94,791.32; value of stock on hand, \$382,277.37; exhibits held, 712; members exhibiting, 5,615; prizes received, \$9,681.11. A feature of progress was the improvement in quality of fowls bred by club members. In numerous instances the boys and girls won prizes in open competition with older and established breeders.

## SCHOOLS FAILING

"If, as you say, the rural and village schools of America are not paying good dividends on

the amount invested in them, what is the reason?" I asked a practical business man.

"Because the public is not putting enough into them to make them pay," was his reply. Continuing, he said: "I know a man who started a restaurant, but he was niggardly in his expenditures, buying inferior equipment and employing cheap and inefficient cooks and waiters. It was seldom that anyone ate more than once or twice at his place. Within a few weeks he had to depend upon transients, and at the end of six months he was bankrupt. A few more dollars invested in equipment and in wages for efficient help would have meant good profits. Have I answered your question?"—*W. S. Deffenbaugh.*

## TEACHING "OUT-BACK CHILDREN BY CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence instruction is utilized in Australia for giving the advantages of education to children in remote country districts far removed from any educational center and almost out of touch with civilization. The plan has proved very successful and has been adopted in several states of the commonwealth. Children 6 years old and upward are taught by special teachers under the department of education. The young people look forward eagerly to "mail day." A fortnightly budget is usually sent at a time. The work is most carefully set out, so that the mother or an older brother or sister may help the younger children. Every child, in addition to sending his work, corresponds with the teacher, so that his individual characteristics and interests become known.

In Tasmania a teacher has been appointed to visit remote settlers in every part of the island in order to impress upon the settlers the possibilities of this kind of education. Enthusiastic reports are made of the work of "out-back" children, many of whom live 500 miles or more from the teacher. Children taught by correspondence rely upon independent effort much more than in the ordinary school. Teacher and pupil tend to idealize each other, and this becomes a happy stimulus to both. The new scheme enables the authorities to reach annually several hundred pupils who would otherwise receive no instruction.—*School Life.*

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

The Manzanita Parent-Teacher Association near Gridley, Butte Co., Calif., of which Mrs. John Page Hopkins is president, have solved the problem of hot lunches for the rural school in this manner.

Dates of school days are cut from a large calendar and those dates are distributed to the mothers in the district who are willing to take

their turn in serving either hot chocolate or hot soup. The name of each mother serving with the date to serve is kept by the principal as a reference.

If soup is made it is prepared at home and taken to the school in large containers and heated at the noon hour. The chocolate is made at the school by the parent serving.

The children pay ten cents a week or two cents a day for the hot chocolate or soup, each child supplying its own cup and spoon, and taking

same home each day to be properly washed.

The Parent-Teacher Association reimburses the mothers for the cost of the materials used. About one hundred children are served.

The Association has been serving hot lunches for about two months and a marked improvement is already seen in the children by some of the parents, inasmuch as the children seem to have more resistance, fewer colds and do not come home from school so hungry that they must piece before the evening meal.

### Middle Atlantic States Council

The Middle Atlantic States Council of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held its first annual meeting at the Hotel Chalfonte, Atlantic City, on November 11.

At the convention of the National Congress in Madison last June, delegates from New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware discussed the question of forming a Council to promote closer coöperation between the states of this group, to extend organization, and to bring about better understanding of the aims and purposes of the founders of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. So heartily did the state boards of these five states approve the plan that representatives were sent to Philadelphia, September 28, where preliminaries for the annual meeting were arranged. Mrs. Drury W. Cooper, president of New Jersey Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, then being made temporary chairman, and Mrs. Walter Greenwood of Coatesville, Penn., temporary secretary.

On November 11, Mrs. Cooper called the meeting to order at 2 P.M. Representatives, thirty-five in all, were present from every state except Delaware. In the absence of Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. A. H. Reeve, of Philadelphia, acted as secretary.

After the adoption of resolutions and by-laws the following officers were elected for two years: *President*, Mrs. Drury W. Cooper, New Jersey. *First Vice-President*, Mrs. Robert Moss, Maryland.

*Second Vice-President*, Mrs. John Cleaver Delaware.

*Secretary*, Mrs. Walter Greenwood, Pennsylvania.

*Treasurer*, Mrs. Frederick Hosmer, New York.

It was voted to extend an invitation to the District of Columbia to join the Middle Atlantic States Council.

Mrs. David O. Mears, brought greetings from the National Congress, Massachusetts, and North Carolina, where she had recently visited. Discussion on the condition of juvenile courts in the various states, and motion pictures, was led by Mrs. Frederic Schoff, of Philadelphia. The Council passed a resolution that every parent-teacher association should appoint a committee to look into the care of wayward children and the laws regarding them, such committee to be known for the time being as the committee of Exceptional Children and to work auxiliary to the juvenile courts.

The Council voted to coöperate with the International Sunday School Association through the State Congresses by arranging parents' associations in churches, and to work with state boards of health for the establishment of clinics for mothers of pre-school age children. Support of the Federal Physical Education and Maternity bills and of a bill to provide for the appointment of attendance and probation officers by educational authorities instead of by the courts, as at present, was voted.

Delegates from other states were invited to remain in Atlantic City for the annual Convention of the New Jersey Congress.

We would be one in hatred of all wrong,  
One in our love of all things sweet and fair,  
One with the joy that breaketh forth in song,

One with the grief that trembleth into prayer,  
One in the power that sets the children free,  
To follow truth—and thus to follow Thee.

It matters not at what hour of the day  
The righteous fall asleep;  
Death can not come to him untimely

Who has learned to die.  
The less of this brief life the more of heaven,  
The shorter time, the longer immortality.



## Editor's Desk

**Stop Slaughter of Innocents—Child Feeding Fund for Starving Children of Europe.**

Dr. William L. Westermann was chief of the Near-East division of the American Peace Commission. At the eighth meeting of the *Public Ledger's* forum of the Peace Conference he said: "I think we can regard this Near-East work along with all of Mr. Hoover's work, as placing American influence far above what it was at the Peace Conference."

This statement from one of the most influential participants in the American Peace Conference is significant and opportune.

In love and generosity, this work for childhood has been done with that spirit of service which recognizes that "Inasmuch as ye have done it to one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Without consideration of the future significance, men, women and children are contributing to the vast fund to save these innocent children.

Prof. Westermann sees in it the forging of chains of love which will go far toward binding together the peoples of all these nations who in their need have been helped by America. Love wins where force antagonizes. The children of today, helped to live by America's earnest work, will not forget in mature years the helping hand extended to them.

\$10 will save a child from starvation. Every mothers' circle and parent-teacher association should adopt at least one child and help on the wonderful work inaugurated and so ably managed by Mr. Hoover.

Contributions should be sent to National Treasurer Franklin K. Lane, 42 Broadway, New York City. CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE will be happy to publish names of organizations or individuals in the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations who respond to this appeal.

**Message to Each Subscriber. This Means You.**

The Editorial Board is deeply interested in making the MAGAZINE a practical help to parents, teachers, all interested in child-welfare individually or in organizations.

Whether it is doing this, where it can do it more effectively with the means at its command, can only be known by the response of its readers.

The Editorial Board cordially invites each subscriber to write what the MAGAZINE has meant to her or him, what further assistance it could give, what parts of the magazine are most valuable. Has it given you a broader view of the conditions and needs of children? Has it helped you, and if so in what way?

The MAGAZINE is not endowed, and is not a commercial enterprise. With increasing circulation it may become possible to increase its usefulness.

**Sympathy to Mrs. Crutcher.**

Mr. Eugene Crutcher, of Nashville, Tennessee, died suddenly January eighteenth. In the loss of her husband, whose coöperation in all child-welfare work was heartily given, Mrs. Crutcher will have the sympathy of her many friends and co-workers, not only in Tennessee but throughout the country. As president of Tennessee branch and vice-president of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Mrs. Crutcher has identified herself with the work with unselfish devotion to its great ideals. The unfailing assistance and interest of her husband has smoothed the way for her in all she has done.

**Activities of Some National Vice-Presidents of National Congress Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.**

Mrs. Isaac Lea Hillis, vice-president National Congress Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association, after visiting many towns in Texas, continued her work by going to Louisiana. She organized a parent-teacher association in Jeanerette and hopes to further organization of a State Branch when in New Orleans, February 17 and after. Mrs. Hillis had a conference with President and Mrs. Obregon, of Mexico. Both were much interested.

In her capacity as presidential elector in the State of Montana Mrs. H. B. Farnsworth journeyed to Washington in January to carry the report of the election to the presiding officer of the Senate. Under the law this has to be done by a presidential elector in each state and the men delegated this duty to her.

Mrs. Farnsworth is proud of the educational record of Montana which stands first in the survey of states. Because of the vast distances in a sparsely settled state, and the rural problems it has been difficult to manage extension work, but with coöperation of the educational agencies of the state the work is progressing steadily.

Mrs. W. F. Thacher, honorary vice-president National Congress Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations sailed for South America the last of January. She expressed the desire to interest

South Americans in the work of National Congress Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. In Buenos Aires, Argentina, there is a flourishing Mothers Club and already much has been done, but in Rio Janeiro, Brazil, the work has never been presented. Mrs. Thacher will do all she can to arouse interest there.

**Virginia Will Organize State Branch National Congress Mother and Parent-Teacher Association in April.**

Roanoke, Virginia, has been laying its plans for over a year to complete the formation of a State organization of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

In this, Mrs. Robert Hudson, of Richmond, state organizer, has given hearty coöperation, for she has long desired to have Virginia enter the ranks of the National Congress Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association.

Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Schoff and Mrs. Crutcher have been invited to attend the meeting which will be held April 1, and 2.

Six weeks of intensive organization work will be done by a paid organizer before April 1.

Roanoke is the geographical center of the state and therefore a logical convention center, as both political parties have their conventions there.

The State Superintendent is coöperating in plans for a State Branch. Prominent educators in the State are anxious that the movement be pushed now. Mrs. Harry Semones, president Central Council Parent-Teacher Associations of Roanoke City, Salem, Vinton and Washington Heights, is leading the movement in Roanoke and Mrs. Hudson in Richmond.

**International Child Welfare Committee.**

The National Council of Women of the United States recommended the formation of a special Department of Child Welfare in every National Council with an international chairman. The recommendation was adopted. Lady Aberdeen writes to Mrs. Schoff, chairman of United States Council: "It is a great joy to me to know that you are to be on that special committee appointed by the International Council of Women in regard to children. It has been rather difficult to get it together, for the different countries who wished to be represented on it have been rather slow in appointing their representatives. I have just heard from Italy that the daughter-in-law of the Italian President, Contessa Spiellitti, has been appointed there. May God speed our work for the bairns."

## PROGRAM FOR PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS FOR MARCH

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

**FIRST TOPIC—Parent-Teacher Associations.** Laura U. Kohn.

**SECOND TOPIC—A Tiny Egoist—What Other States are Doing.**

**THIRD TOPIC—Current Events in Child Welfare.**

List of Loan Papers in Child Nurture suitable for programs may be secured by sending 2 cent stamp to National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 1201 16th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

# **National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations**

## **CHILD-WELFARE IN HOME, CHURCH, SCHOOL AND STATE**

INCORPORATED 1897

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Missouri, Mrs. Wm. Ullmann, 521 E. Walnut St., Springfield.

734 Prairie Ave., Kenosha.

Montana, Mrs. H. B. Farnsworth, Missoula.

Wyoming, President, deceased.

North Carolina, Mrs. Joseph Garibaldi, 214 Park St.,  
Charlotte.

\*States with stars have no State Branch.

**State News****ARIZONA**

Mrs. M. T. Phelps, National Vice-President, writes on Jan. 6, 1921, of the work in this state: "Our membership drive is now on and we hope to increase our number to a marked extent over last year. . . . We have, throughout the state, sections that have one or two organizations which have never come into the state organization, and we think it a wise thing to scatter our state officers over different parts of the state, so that is to be cared for at our annual meeting

next month. . . . We have a strong Local Council in Phoenix. Since June I have been reporting to the various associations the work done at Madison last June so that they will get a definite idea of their relation to the National, and the relation of the National to them. It also helps our Delegate's Fund. I never can tell how the trip to Madison has helped me in this work. . . . We expect to send our state president to Washington in April."

**CALIFORNIA**

Mrs. Harry J. Ewing, of San Jose, California, has succeeded Dr. Jessie Russell, of Glendale, California, as president of the California Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

In Los Angeles at the State Convention, last May, Dr. Russell retired, leaving California clubs in a flourishing condition, with a membership of 40,000.

Mrs. Harry Ewing went into office, with the slogan, "50,000 members for California!" The first state executive board meeting was held at her home in San Jose, in July. Mrs. Ewing's name has been linked with Parent-Teacher Associations since 1908. Her interest in child welfare and education are the dominant factors of her life. She has progressed from a president of a small organization, through the High School Clubs, the federation and district until she became the representative of the state organization. Mrs. Ewing is an ideal mother, having successfully raised three sons to manhood, the fourth son still a child. In child-welfare work, her clear insight of constructive methods and her initiative have made things move in big strides.

Through the helpful suggestions and ever-ready assistance of the Hon. Will C. Wood, state superintendent of public instruction, the California Congress of Mothers has been able to have a representative speaker at the several teachers' institutes held throughout the state. This has proven a tremendous uplift and has given the mothers a chance to place their work directly before the teachers, consequently many new associations have been formed and Mrs. Ewing's dream of 50,000 members will no doubt come true. One more district has been added to the state, making eleven in all.

California is fortunate in obtaining Mrs. W. H. Marston, of Berkeley, as extension chairman. She has sent out hundreds of printed and typewritten data pertaining to organization and "Why the P.-T. A." Although organization has been the prime movement, many important steps have been taken. The California Congress of Mothers has been affiliated with the Women's Legislative Council for eight years but concluded that owing to paternal membership which includes "fathers" that they could not, according to the constitution, be members of the Women's Legislative Council any longer, and voted to withdraw.

Mrs. Noble writes: Once each month in Los Angeles, a sight-seeing automobile trip is taken to our schools, one district each time, to educate and instruct the Parent-Teacher Association members in what is needed in the American and foreign schools. I am always surprised and pleased to see so many autos and hundreds of people on these trips.

**INDIANA**

October 20-22, 1920, are memorable dates for the Parent-Teacher Associations of Indiana for the Annual Convention was held at that time in Indianapolis at the Y. W. C. A. building.

The rapid growth of the work and interest was manifested this year by the large number of delegates present, and the spirit of coöperation shown.

The program was one of especial interest and Hollenbeck Hall was crowded with delegates, welfare workers, educators, and friends. Workers from all over the state told of their welfare work, how it was carried on, and what they expected to do in the very near future. It did not seem possible that so much real work could have been accomplished during the past year.

Dr. H. G. Childs, professor at Indiana University, spoke on "High School Problems"; Prof. Mary S. Matthews of Purdue University on "Dress"; and Mrs. David Ross on "Better Films." Other addresses were: "The Religious Training of the Child," by Prov. A. E. Albertson; "Health and Malnutrition" and illustrated lectures by Mrs. Lewis Featherston of Chicago; "School Attendance," by Prof. Donald DuShane, president of the Indiana State Teachers Association; "Weaknesses in the Indiana Juvenile Court Laws," by Mrs. Richard Lieber; "Womanhood," by Dr. Valeria Parker of Hartford, Conn.; "Is Instinct a Safe Guide to Motherhood?" by Miss Eliz. Hester; "Community Building" by Prof. J. J. Pettyjohn; "The Teacher and the Community" by Dr. L. N. Hines; "The School a Social Agency" by R. E. Cavanaugh; and "The Field of the P.-T. A." by Dr. Edna Edmondson.

At the banquet at the First Baptist Church, Mrs. Hence Orme, State President, presided as toastmistress. Responses were made by Mrs. Albion Fellows Bacon on "Needed Child-Welfare Legislation"; Amos Butler on "Our State Wards"; and Dr. Wm. F. King on "Social Hygiene."

A state plan of work was adopted. The health of school children is especially emphasized.

The whole state is aglow with new enthusiasm since the convention. The membership is growing rapidly. Requests are coming in constantly for organizers and literature. Reports continue to come in every day telling of the many things being accomplished such as hot lunches established, playground equipment, libraries, movie machines, victrolas, pianos, physicians, scales, "gym" equipment, pictures and flags bought for the schools.

Indiana is an ardent believer in the press and publicity. Notices of meetings, reports of addresses given, and articles dealing with the P.-T. A. work go out through the Associated Press, state, and local papers every week.

Our Child-Welfare Bureau at Indiana Uni-



versity is giving valuable assistance to our P.-T. A. work. A professor of the University is our executive secretary. There a monthly bulletin is gotten out to all local presidents giving them information as to new literature and helps available as well as suggestions from the president and officers which would be helpful in carrying on this the greatest of all work, the welfare of our children.

### MARYLAND

SOME OF THE REPORTS MADE AT THE FALL COUNCIL OF MARYLAND BRANCH,

October, 1920

Our meetings are held the third Wednesday each month at 2:30 P.M.—Emerson Hotel.

#### BALTIMORE

*Report of Fort Worthington Home School Club*

During 1919-1920 we have held nine meetings, each of which was enthusiastic and interesting.

At the May meeting we had the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Parkhurst. At this time our auxiliary to National Congress Mothers was formed.

Last year the club gave the school two fine balls costing \$20. On June 30 they took the school with members of Club to Druid Hill Park for an all-day picnic, carrying them to and from school to grove in auto trucks. A committee arranged games for each grade, awarding desirable prizes. This month they have given the school a mimeograph costing \$66.

Through the efforts of the Improvement Committee lamps have been placed on pavements of school building. The same committee is now working to have city level hill in rear of yard, and throw same into additional yard space, which is necessary to allow playgrounds sufficiently large.

*Report from Child-Welfare Circle, October 29, 1920*

The general topic of the meetings last year was "The Leisure Hours of Children." Whole-some methods of filling children's time outside of school were presented and discussed by well-qualified speakers.

The first meeting was devoted to the discussion of the motion pictures show as a desirable form of entertainment for children. The strong feeling of many mothers that the average show is far from desirable led to the appointment of a "committee on movies" which had several conferences with individuals and representatives of other organizations and picture theater managers. These conferences, together with talks to parent-teacher clubs, have done something in Baltimore toward creating a demand for better films for children. The committee hopes to be able at some time in the future to accomplish something more concrete.

Another particularly successful meeting had for its topic "Music in the Home" and was held in conjunction with the Peabody Conservatory Preparatory Department. Interesting demonstrations were given of part and chorus singing and ensemble playing by small children. The significance of this meeting lay not only in the suggestions it gave for developing an interest in music in the home and in the community but in the inspiration that come from cooperation with an institution working along a specialized line for the improvement of children.

It has been strongly impressed on us that no circle working to itself alone can grow. So we plan an especially strong effort to get in touch this year with as many agencies as possible working for child welfare, by means of standing committees which shall keep us informed of the work of these agencies and partly by encouraging representatives of other organizations to attend our meetings.

ALICE E. BAKER,

*President Baltimore Child Welfare Circle*

*Report of Parent-Teacher Club, Federal School No. 70, Warren Ave. and Williams St.*

During this year sixty new members have been enrolled as the result of a membership campaign. A committee of twenty-five was appointed, each being asked to try to secure four new members.

Meeting have been held each month. The attendance has been good, and the programs interesting and enjoyable as well as profitable. Good speakers were provided, and fine music rendered. The school orchestra has given splendid assistance.

In the spring a musical and literary entertainment was given to which there was admittance fee; and a Carnival was held in June. Both were very successful.

A picture is to be placed in each room. A pennant and badges of merit have also been furnished by the Club. The purchase of a moving picture machine is being considered. Federal Club gave a contribution of \$150 to the building of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association.

At present there is a balance in the Treasury of \$234.92.

A committee has been appointed to secure a swimming pool and to urge the speedy erection of an addition to the present building.

Respectfully submitted,

EMMA M. WAIDNER,

*Secretary*

*Mother's Kindergarten Club, School No. 20*

Our Mother's Kindergarten Club has only been organized since February, 1920. We have had few working months, therefore have no report to offer on any constructive work done the past year.

Most of our time has been devoted to gathering information that would benefit the club, also trying to mothers get more mothers interested and so lay foundation that will increase members this coming year.

A few of our members subscribe for the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE and find it delightful as well as helpful.

We had just taken up the subject of "Better Moving Pictures," when vacation intervened and now expect to work with renewed energy. The little we have done has caused us to feel optimistic as to the results along that line and we hope to be able to offer a favorable report in the near future.

Trusting that our Club will grow and so help Maryland do her share in the good work, we are Very sincerely,

MOTHERS' KINDERGARTEN CLUB SCHOOL  
No. 20.

Mrs. E. Huhn Nichols, *President.*

#### *Govans Parent-Teacher Club*

The biggest thing the Govans Parent-Teacher Club accomplished this year was the acquiring of a lot of ground in front of the school ground, 64 feet wide and 300 feet deep. This gives the school property a frontage of 89 feet on the York Road.

This lot had on it a double house occupied by colored families with all the usual untidy outbuildings and anything but sanitary surroundings. The school yard was reached by a lane 25 feet wide and 300 feet long.

We went to the School Board and asked them to buy the houses and lot, and while they were desirous of adding it to the school grounds, they had no money. We went to the Board of Estimates and obtained an appropriation of \$5,000. This was not sufficient to acquire the property, but the City finally bought it. The houses are now vacant and we have the promise of the city officials that the houses will be razed and the lot graded.

We also provided the school with paper towels, for the children and made \$300 last year by a lawn fete and an Easter Sale, the money to be used for beautifying the school grounds.

We also visited the school board to ask them to raise the salaries of two of our teachers.

We are in the annex and because two of our teachers had not gained their experiences in Baltimore County, their salaries were lower than those of the other teachers. The increase was granted but too late to keep one of the teachers. We also made vain pleas for Domestic Science and Manual Training teachers. We have a fine equipment but have had no teachers for over two years. We are still making efforts to secure them.

MRS. ROBERT S. RODGERS,  
*P. G. P. T. Asso.*

#### PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF MT. WASHINGTON SCHOOL, MT. WASHINGTON, MD.

The Mt. Washington Association has been in existence less than a year, having been organized by Mrs. Parkhurst in December, 1919, but thanks to the enthusiastic leadership of our president, Mrs. Douglas C. Turnbull, and our vice-president, Miss Clara E. Smithson, who is also principal of the school, it is thoroughly well-established. It has a membership of 153 parents, and it should be said that the enrolling of such a large number was due to a campaign inaugurated by Miss Smithson and conducted by the school-children, which proved most successful.

Meetings have been held in the School each month at 8 P.M., except during the summer. Membership dues are 25 cents a week.

An address was delivered by a speaker sent us by Mrs. Parkhurst. For her help in this matter we are deeply grateful, for we have experienced the perhaps not unusual difficulty in having our own members willing to contribute to the programs.

Our first interest as to appoint a standing committee on the physical condition of the school building. Fortunately, the Mt. Washington public school is a modern building, admirably constructed for its purpose. The school yard, however, is unsuited for the purpose and there were found to be several matters of minor importance within the building which needed correction. We wish to acknowledge the assistance given us by Mr. J. Frank Crowther, superintendent of public buildings, when the committee brought these matters to his attention.

The Junior Red Cross (Miss Ella Thorpe, manager) has 250 members; raised nearly \$500 from sale of newspapers brought to school by the children, with which money they support 2 Indian boys and one Armenian girl; also furnished full Christmas baskets to the families in vicinity.

Upon the opening of the school this fall, Mrs. Turnbull, our President, gave what we believe to be the first banner of the Parent-Teacher Association to be made in the State. This banner of blue and gold silk was made by Mrs. Turnbull herself, and will be given each month into the custody of that grade in the school which sent the largest number of parents to the previous month's meeting. A fine spirit of rivalry between the grades has resulted.

#### MASSACHUSETTS

The eleventh Annual Convention of the Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Association held in Boston, October 21, 22, 23, was the most largely attended and most successful annual conference ever held by this State Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

The necessary legal steps were taken to incor-

porate the Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Association.

The Charter was issued October 25th, 1920. We are now on the same footing as other philanthropic organizations and unlimited possibilities of development lie before us.

The corporation elected officers for the year as follows:

*President:* Mrs. E. C. Mason.

*Vice-Presidents:* Mrs. E. M. Barney, Mrs. S. H. Whitten, Mrs. C. F. Borden.

*Secretary:* Mrs. H. V. Neal.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. L. A. Greenwood.

Features of the convention were a visit to the Art Museum and the Wheelock Training School. The closing session was held in Huntington Hall on Saturday afternoon where, under the auspices of the Froebel Club of Boston and the Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Association, Angelo Patri, author of "A School Master of a Great City," gave an inspiring address on Parents and Teachers.

The Convention reports showed a state membership of 7,000 and 130 associations. The past year has not been marked by its number of new associations but by increased growth in membership.

At the district conference held in Greenfield there were reports from the state convention, addresses by the principal of Ames Academy, who spoke on the subject "Social and Moral Hygiene," by Professor G. L. Farley, of Amherst, by Mr. Abbott, superintendent of schools, and Mrs. E. C. Mason, state president.

#### GREENFIELD

At Greenfield the Parent-Teacher Association last summer brought about the playground work and at the Franklin County fair had a rest room conducted by some of the members. A year ago they were asked to raise funds for a school nurse. A drive was made and the sum needed, \$600, was raised in a very short time. They endorsed the Health Educational Bill, the Maternity Bill, and the Movie Censorship Bill. One evening in March was given to the children, who were entertained by a musical magician. Had such an audience that the building overflowed, so this year are going to have a larger place and have the same man come again. Saw the need of a tennis court, and, realizing that it meant a great deal of work and much money, attempted it, and now have two fine tennis courts completed at a cost of over \$600. The young people seem to appreciate them, as they were well patronized all summer. Also bought two sets of scales for the use of the school nurse.

The Ways and Means Committee worked untiringly. The Relief Committee did many different things, giving out clothing, and at Christmas time sent out eleven boxes to as

many families, caring for little children who are sick, etc. The Child-Hygiene Committee furnishes a layette which is loaned at any time. Milk was supplied for a Polish baby that was anæmic.

Mrs. G. C. Lunt, chairman of the Membership Committee, reported a drive for new members by the return-postal method. By that means have gained over two hundred members to date, with many cards yet to be heard from. Now have nearly five hundred members, and hope to have one thousand.

Mrs. Dallas Lore Sharp, in connection with lectures before women's clubs, has urged the organization of Parent-Teacher Associations, at the Mothers' Club of Newton, where she spoke on "The By-products of Reading Aloud," and at the Billerica Woman's Club, where she gave a talk on "Parental Abdication." She made a condition of her coming the privilege of presenting briefly the need of Parent-Teacher work. Mrs. Sharp spoke for the Home-Welfare Club at West Somerville on December 2, and she will speak for the Warren School Parent-Teacher Association, Wakefield, on December 13. Both are evening meetings, with other organizations invited.

Mrs. William E. Rowe spoke before the East Douglas Parent-Teacher Association on November 19, as a result of which so much interest was aroused that the association rejoined the Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Associations with fifty members.

Mrs. Lorne Hulsman, councillor at Pittsfield, formed a Parent-Teacher Association at the Redfield School on November 23.

A Parent-Teacher Association at Wayland was formed November 1 by Mrs. E. C. Mason, who spoke at the evening meeting to about sixty men and women. Mrs. Robert H. Ames was elected president. The chairman of the school committee served as temporary chairman.

At a fall meeting of the Home-Welfare Club of West Somerville, Mrs. Ralph Kirtland explained the need of state censorship of motion pictures. A committee was appointed to censor motion pictures in a local theatre. During the year speakers and subjects will be: Mrs. Dallas Lore Sharp on "Parental Abdication"; Mrs. E. T. Knight, Women's Municipal League, on "Our Foreign-born Friends"; Mrs. M. C. Wright on "Duties of the High-School Matron"; Mrs. Arthur Webber on "Music in the Home"; Mrs. Edward French on "Fuller Meaning of Parenthood"; and Mrs. Frances Wiggin, Library Commission, on "Stories and Books for Children." A dance, a luncheon, and a picnic are added to this excellent program.

The Wingate Parent-Teacher Association at Haverhill, has one evening meeting a year known as American night. The entire program which consists of instrumental and vocal selections of high artistic merit, national dances

by boys and girls, and an interesting address on some topic of interest in American history, are given by friends of the school among the American people. To these meetings come grandparents and great grandparents of the school children and it is a big event to be invited to this gathering in a school building. This association has recently purchased two cases of rubbers for children who cannot otherwise obtain them. These mothers decided it was more practical to try to prolong the life of old shoes and new by furnishing means of keeping them dry.

Several Parent-Teacher Associations at each meeting appoint four or more members to visit the school during a certain week before the next meeting. This is a real committee, which acts, and reports at the next meeting. This helps the looks of the teacher's visitors' list at the end of the year, to say the least.

Massachusetts is earnestly at work to continue the good work begun when our dear Mrs. M. P. Higgins was our state president and whom we now proudly serve as our national president.

### MAINE

In Maine an admirable Baby-Saving Society has been organized. The situation is forcefully stated in the following from one of the leaflets of this organization:

"Every baby has an undeniable right to be well born and well reared. He cannot assert this right—in his weakness he can only make the *appeal*. His young mother loves him—what would she not give or do to show that love—but how! She was not told how nor what to do, so far as may be, to insure a healthy baby, at birth or after. So the baby pays the price often in death; or, with one preventable disease after another, is the foundation laid in infancy or childhood for any one of those diseases which crop out between the ages of 20 and 40, and reap so heavy a death harvest in those years.

To insure a healthy childhood, youth, manhood, and middle age, the baby must be given a proper start. This he does not always have. Statistics of Maine show at least two deaths in every 15 are of babies under one year of age, and 2 deaths in every 11 are of children under 5 years of age. And more; for every cross marking the grave of a Maine boy buried overseas in 1917-1918, 6 crosses mark the grave of Maine babies under one year of age; and 8 crosses mark the graves of Maine babies under 5, for the same two years. Perhaps many of these were the victims of war conditions; but we are no longer at war—except the unceasing war against disease and conditions which superinduce disease.

Standard free literature may be had at the properly conducted local clinic, or at the Headquarters of the Maine Baby-Saving Society:

Some of the especially helpful pamphlets are: "Pre-Natal Care," "Infant Care," "Child Care," "Milk."

The Maine Baby-Saving Society aims to secure the establishment and maintenance of Baby Clinics in all cities, in the larger, and many smaller towns of the State. A representative of the Society will make "baby surveys" in different communities, secure the coöperation of the local physicians, give lectures and talks before interested groups of people in the community, with the intent of arousing local interest in a local Baby Clinic. Only methods of recognized "standard" character will be advocated and adopted; and "standard" literature will be available.

### MISSOURI

The board of managers of the Missouri Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations met in Kansas City, November 12. Plans were discussed for the appointment of a state organizer. It was decided to inaugurate a drive for associate members at \$1.00 each, the funds raised to be set aside and known as the State Organization Fund.

Later at a board meeting in Springfield, Mrs. A. B. Sherwood, state recording secretary, offered to give one week each month to organization work. This generous offer was accepted and the state chairman of organization, Mrs. Platenburg of Kansas City, was authorized to plan the monthly itinerary.

Mrs. Sherwood, besides being state recording secretary, is secretary of the Springfield Parent-Teacher Council. She is also a member of the Board of Censors in Springfield. This board reviews moving pictures and vaudeville acts. At first the board met with expressed antagonism from managers and actors, but as time went on, the determination and high motives of the board were realized and the managers came forward with hearty response, even having printed placards hung in actors' dressing rooms warning actors that arrest would follow the display of indecent and unwholesome vaudeville. Many questionable pictures have been suppressed. As a result of the boards' untiring efforts, Springfield people enjoy clean, wholesome amusements.

The Springfield district president, Mrs. J. C. DuBueque, had a conference of the circles in the sixteen counties in her district. Subjects discussed were: How can we assist the Thrift movement; How the Parent-Teacher Associations can help the children in Missouri; What the Parent-Teacher Associations should do for the Community, and How can we coöperate in Juvenile work.

The Hon. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, addressed the Conference at the luncheon hour on "What Can We Afford to Pay for Education?"



The Kansas City Council is now issuing a monthly *Bulletin* edited by Mrs. Ray Graham. The *Bulletin* reports that many Kansas City circles are taking the correspondence course for the education of parents under an arrangement made with Dr. O'Shea, our national chairman of education. Any one who feels the lack of training for the proper development of his or her children may take these free courses, whereby parents may stay home and go to school too.

The executive board of the Kansas City Congress Council will lay stress on Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations in Churches. Mothers' circles include mothers of pre-school children and should cover in their programs questions of pre-natal care and the care and training of children when training counts for more than at a later age. There should be at least a third as many such circles as there are Parent-Teacher Associations in any community, since the average number of pre-school children is one third of the school population. Such a group could take the correspondence course and use the lessons for discussion in the meetings. The Parent-Teacher Associations in churches is an effort to bring about a closer coöperation between the home and the church.

### MISSISSIPPI

The eleventh annual convention of the Mississippi Parent-Teacher Association met in Natchez, November 4-6. Delegates from every Congressional district in the State were present and the State was divided into eight districts.

A study of the subject of Mothers' Pension Laws revealed the fact that since 1911 all the States, with the exception of five, have passed such laws, and that in all States except two, Mississippi being one, such a law is being agitated. The Association pledged its support to this measure and a committee was appointed to see that such a law be drafted and publicity be given to it.

Among the prominent speakers of the Convention were Assistant State Superintendent of Education, J. W. Broom, Mr. J. T. Calhoun, State Supervisor of Rural Schools, Hon. Gerard Brandon, who spoke on Citizenship, Dr. Minerva Knott, Child-Welfare Specialist, Miss Nannie Lackland, Chief of Public Health Nursing, Mrs. Robert Phifer, Secretary Anti-Tuberculosis League.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

*President:* Mrs. H. P. Hughes, Senatobia.

*Vice-President:* Cliff Davis, Amory.

*Recording Secretary:* Mrs. Ernest Bennett, Natchez.

*Corresponding Secretary:* Mrs. L. H. Brevard, Hernando.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. George Covington, Hazlehurst.

The Mississippi Parent-Teacher Association has in past twelve months increased its membership 100 per cent.

A campaign for physical education has been of immense importance. More than fifty Parent-Teacher Associations report play equipment bought and installed; numbers of larger associations have secured the services of physical directors.

Medical and dental inspection have made headway in nearly every school where there is a Parent-Teacher Association. Both registration and weighing and measuring tests have continued.

The legislative program includes a measure establishing kindergartens for every separate school district. A public health nurse for every county is also an objective. The Association has endorsed the Sheppard-Towner Bill now before Congress, also the Fess Home Economics Amendment. The convention was attended by women from every congressional district in the State and at this meeting the State was divided into eight working sections with a chairman for each.

The time of meeting was changed from November of each year to a date which would correspond with the State Teachers Association held in April or May, place to be the same.

### NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Congress has accepted the invitation of Mrs. Milton P. Higgins to attend the meeting of the National Congress, in conjunction with the Department of Superintendence, March 3, at Atlantic City, and will act as hostess to the National during the convention. Haddon Hall will be the headquarters and delegates from New Jersey will welcome members of the National.

The Conference of March 3 will be addressed by such widely known educational experts as Julia Lathrop, Julia Ward Abbott, Dr. M. V. O'Shea and others.

The parent's responsibility to the child, the state's responsibility, and nation's responsibility and opportunity will be the themes around which the conference will center.

Large county delegations and many individual members are planning to attend.

Mothers' Congress will not cease in its efforts until New Jersey's schools rank first instead of fourth among the states of the union—and not then.

Better attendance is the first big effort. The loss due to poor attendance is far greater than that due to poor and inadequate teaching. The present laws provide for an attendance officer in every district but, as is the case in most purely local offices, the laws are not enforced. The Congress, 20,000 strong, is behind legislation to have an Attendance Bureau established at Trenton, as a part of the Department

of Education, the sole business of which will be to prevent the enormous waste in dollars and cents as well as in educated citizens, caused by the inadequate enforcement of the compulsory education laws.

New York, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut have such Bureaus. The chairman of education, Mrs. William Downs, believes that the cost of the Bureau would not exceed \$15,000 a year and that \$1,000,000 would be the returns. The Congress looks at it as a business proposition.

The Bureau would coöperate with the local attendance officers all through the state and a big part of the work would be the taking of a semi-monthly census of all persons between five and eighteen years of age and finding out if they were in school and if not, why not. That it was not known how many children were out of school, was discovered when the war activities produced figures showing an astonishing amount of illiteracy. The Congress, with Mrs. Downs as Chairman of the movement, will work to accomplish the establishment of the Bureau by forming special committees to take action, to distribute Commissioner Kendall's circular on the subject of better school attendance, to write to or personally interview legislators and urge them to further this legislation, and to attend hearings of the Bill in the Legislature.

Logically connected with the Attendance Bureau effort is the support and extension of the Continuation School into all parts of the state. In 1919, the Legislature enacted a law, known as the "Continuation School Act," providing that all employed children, between the ages of 14 and 16 years, must attend a Continuation School six hours a week during the working time. The law became effective July 1st, 1920, and some schools were ready to receive pupils in September.

The law requires that such schools shall be established by local Boards of Education only in those districts in which twenty or more minors, between the ages of 14 and 16, are employed. Employers are required to allow all boys and girls of this age time off between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. for six hours a week to attend a continuation school. The pupils cannot be required to attend on Saturday, Sunday, or evenings.

Mothers' Congress is strongly behind this new step, asking all local Parent-Teacher Associations to make an immediate survey of their district to see if the number of employed minors warrants the establishment of a Continuation school. If so, the county superintendent and local boards are consulted and the employers visited.

Because thousands of boys and girls drop out of school each year to go to work at "some job" with little or no thought of the opportunities for advancement it may offer or their own fitness for the work, the Congress is pushing

hard for more vocational guidance of the children above the fifth grade. By means of questionnaires, sympathetic influence, and counsel thousands of young people that now grope through life will find their niches and be saved to happy, useful living.

Recognizing the great danger to the democratic spirit of our schools and to the best moral development of young people, resolutions read by the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs, were endorsed by the Board, to work for the elimination of all secret societies from the high schools.

With the addition of two new chairmen, the Congress now consists of fourteen departments consecrated to Child Welfare in all phases.

Coöperation with all agencies interested in the same great cause is the aim and while we grow in numbers, we are holding tight to the ideal of "the finest spirit" that mother love can inspire.

### NEW YORK

The Parent-Teacher Associations of Rochester, some 17 in number, have just had a most successful bazaar to raise funds for the State Convention in 1921. The splendid return of over a thousand dollars was most gratifying and Mrs. B. F. Thompson, the president of the Officers' Association, who planned and superintended the whole affair, is to be congratulated. Mrs. Thompson's plan is worthy of note and was as follows: each association had a different and very definite part to carry to success. One had a doll booth, three sold candy, one fancy work, one ice cream, two cooked food, another aprons, one served a dinner and a supper, while another had charge of a dance in the evening. It was an all-day affair and interested many new people in the Parent-Teacher work in Rochester besides being a financial success, Mrs. B. F. Thompson, 35 Texas Street, Rochester, N. Y., will be glad to answer any questions that interested associations would like to ask.

The New York State Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations is having a membership drive in which posters, window cards, and bags carrying the slogan, "every member win a member; every club win a club," are playing a very active part.

Great interest and enthusiasm have been created through reports of wonderfully successful and far-reaching efforts manifested in the display of window cards in some very remote sections of club localities, and in the manifold increase in membership totals. One club has increased its membership ten fold. The vision is "New York State membership doubled—Annual dues to National Congress doubled."

Our State Congress was represented at a conference of agencies and organizations engaged in rural social work in New York State, held at Syracuse December 21, 1920. The immediate

purposes of the Conference were Consideration of Health Centers, The Work of the Commission to Study Children's Laws which is to report at the coming session of the Legislature; to hear a presentation of the Rural School Problem by the chairman of a committee of agricultural and other organizations now engaged in its study. All these subjects are of fundamental importance to every rural community in the state, and it is desirable to secure, insofar as possible, a concurrence of judgment regarding them among the organizations invited to this Conference. Of equal importance is the spreading of information concerning such statewide programs among the people of rural communities through the local branches of these organizations. The subjects above referred to, as they affect cities, are being studied by city groups. It is felt that the rural interests of the State will be best advanced if these and other similar problems can be considered by the statewide agencies concerned primarily with the improvement of country life.

### OKLAHOMA

Not having seen a report from our state since we have organized our "Mothers' Club" at Guymon, we feel we would like to have our state and our town speak to the other organizations, through the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE, extending greetings and also letting you know we are "on the map."

Guymon is in the center of what is known as the Panhandle of Oklahoma, and although many people farther east feel that we are in a desert, unimproved, and uneducated part of the United States, they are greatly mistaken. Our population is made up of some of the most progressive and far-seeing people of all the states. That is why they came to this new country. So we consider we are on the top when it comes to good schools and progressive community work.

In our two schools here (just a small town) we have a corps of 22 teachers in the grade and high schools. This includes kindergarten, vocal and piano music, expression, domestic arts, physical and manual training, and a nurse, besides all the literary studies and a partial business course. So we feel that this year it was time for us to organize our parents and teachers into an association where they would work together for the welfare of the students.

We organized our Mothers and Teachers' Club in October, 1919, with 12 members. At our last meeting, January 3, 1920, our membership had increased until it numbered 88. We have had some very interesting, as well as practical, programs discussing such subjects as the following: Diet of the school child, care of the child's eyes, heights and weights, and parents and teachers working together. We are following the plan of having the mothers of

of the pupils give the program, beginning with the kindergarten. Our membership includes all teachers and mothers of all the eight grades as active members, and any other mothers as honorary members.

We are trying to assist our superintendent and teachers in little things that through lack of time, they neglect: for instance, the condition of the grade toilets and their proper order and furnishing. Our playground is well equipped, our water fountains are complete and, in fact, our school is so well supplied that we have not found where we may be of financial assistance to our schools. We are planning to take up a study course this year which we are sure will benefit both parents and teachers. We want the best of help without individual expense so the club decided at its last meeting to give a play, the proceeds to be used to buy the books we need. The mothers will present a play and the teachers will furnish the specialties. We feel this will draw us more closely together and as we become better acquainted we can do better work. We are looking forward to getting the mother of each pupil to become a member of our club and we expect to accomplish great things through our organization.

### OREGON

Under date of November 6, Commissioner Claxton in writing to Mrs. C. W. Hayhurst, president of the Oregon Parent-Teachers, of the Regional Educational Conference that was held in Portland, and urging that the Parent-Teachers be present, said: "No other organizations come in such close and vital contact with elementary and secondary schools in city, town, village and country as the Parent-Teacher Association. Better than all the others they know how inadequate is the support of the schools, how poor the pay of the teachers, how meager their equipment, and what is needed for the improvement of all these. These are some of the vital things which will be discussed in the conference. It is greatly to be desired that all Parent-Teacher Associations in the states of the Conference group shall be represented."

The members of the state executive board were made delegates by the President, and among those attending were Mrs. Helen Wrightman, of Silverton, and the Past President, Mrs. Fred Schilke, of La Grande.

Washington Parent-Teacher Association had three delegates present.

It was an inspiring conference, and should result in much awakened enthusiasm for the cause of education in the Northwest. Commissioner Claxton delivered three stirring addresses during the day, besides showing himself to be a master hand in presiding.

The Parent-Teacher work is progressing splendidly since the convention. Numerous requests are coming in for aids to organize and

for literature. The superintendents of Clackamas and Sherman Counties are taking the initiative in their respective counties. Marion is about 100 per cent.

The next convention will be held in Pendleton in the spring, and all ready Pendleton is making plans for an enthusiastic convention.

A much needed help is coming from our university. The extension department is publishing a Bulletin for Parent-Teacher Associations which will contain among other practical suggestions, the outline of activities prepared by Dr. O'Shea, the national chairman on education.

We shall present a measure to the Legislature asking for a larger allowance for the children of the dependent mothers, and will also support State Superintendent Churchill's measure asking for larger salaries for the county superintendents.

The Portland Parent-Teacher Associations are stressing the establishment of the milk stations for the purpose of providing fresh milk at a low cost to the pupils. The Couch Parent-Teacher Association held a concert that netted \$200 which will be used to buy milk for the indigent pupils. The extension department of the University of Oregon, and the City of Portland are doing a research work at the Buckman School to record the physical and mental development of the pupils using milk.

### TENNESSEE

#### IN MEMORIAM

In the passing of Mr. Eugene Crutcher from the sphere of earthly activities, the Tennessee State Congress of mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, sustain an irreparable loss. He was an ardent supporter of the Child-Welfare work of our state, and gave his heartiest coöperation to all phases of the work.

His support and coöperation meant so much, for he was a man of such high type; of such broad views, of such wonderful vision. A consecrated christian, one who had fully sensed the brotherhood of man. His life was his religion. His faith in a crucified, risen, ascended Savior, was translated into service and love for his fellowmen. His trust in God was evidenced by his treading in the steps of the Lowly Nazarene. He was friend in deed and truth to everyone and wished to be able to call everyone his friend. In our Child-Welfare work, he was always sympathetic and helpful. He was never too busy to meet and help any committee or individual who came to talk with him about Child-Welfare. His home, his office, his time and his heart could be commanded at any time for this cause; and his demise leaves a vacancy which will never be filled. He was so true, so loyal, so kind, so sacrificing. No words could measure the loss, and yet such a life needs no sweep of the pen to embellish it.

We must bow to the will of our Heavenly Father. He has only been removed from the

field of his earthly activity to a higher, broader sphere in the great beyond. With weeping eyes and wounded hearts we bow to the Divine decree. The whole Tennessee Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations is bowed in grief, and extends to our beloved president and to the son our heart-felt sympathy in this their Gethsemane, and commend them in prayer and love to Him who said Lo! I am with you always. For even as we weep and mourn we can hear the echo from the Heavenly portals, Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

### TEXAS

In extending New Year's greetings to the presidents of the various local Parent-Teacher Associations in Texas, Mrs. S. M. N. Marrs, president of the Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, outlines the work of the organization during the year of 1921, and also announces that through courtesy of Miss Annie Webb Blanton, state superintendent of public instruction, head-quarters of the Congress will be in the State Department of Education.

All official communications should be addressed, Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas.

The Texas Congress of Mothers, besides other measures, has agreed for this year to concentrate on the following departments: County organization, child hygiene, kindergarten, and marriage sanctity. You are therefore requested to assist the State organization in every way possible to carry out the program as outlined. To further county organization it is suggested that your club organize and foster at least one Parent-Teacher Association in a neighboring community and also coöperate with the county chairman in the organization of a county child-welfare association in case no such organization has been effected in your county. The State chairman of the child hygiene, kindergarten and marriage sanctity departments will be requested to furnish suitable program material to be used by the local organizations. This material should be ready for distribution by the first of March and may be obtained from the State headquarters.

*Continued from page 148.*

The Savings Division desires to express to the national, state and local officials, and to the entire membership of all women's organizations its very deep appreciation for the fine spirit of coöperation and the service rendered during the past two years, and hopes that under this new policy we may be able to work more intimately, and that through the counsel and advice of the leaders of women's organizations more adequate and effective plans for the establishment of popular saving, intelligent investment and sane economy may become an increasingly important element in women's club activities.